

# THE JEWISH HERALD

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## SHOVUOTH.

The distinctive feature of this holiday in the modern synagogue is the Confirmation ceremony. Shovuoth is decidedly the summer festival and brings to our mind the decorative part of nature with her flowers and first fruit. So we again consecrate the flower of youth to our Faith on this day. Besides, it is the supposed anniversary of the revelation on Sinai, making the day doubly suitable for the exercises.

To the classes that will receive their certificates on Wednesday we extend our heartiest congratulation. They stand at a turning point in their lives, and the diplomas they are to receive tell of noble work done in the Sunday school.

If only they look upon the occasion not as a mere show, but as a time for serious impression, then they will find that their usefulness in life has just begun. They ought to appreciate the instruction they have received, at least so much that they should be staunch supporters of their congregation. The lessons they learned from their teachers and rabbi will undoubtedly not be without influence on their lives, and make them good Jews and Jewesses.

Then here's hoping for their success, and for a long life of noble deeds to them and their dear ones.

A suggestion to the Chairman: Put Jno. L. on the Building Fund Committee and then watch it grow.

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Keep your mouth shut and your purse open.

Blessed are they who expect little for they shall get it.

A nut: Who is the Jew, the convert to Judaism or the convert from Judaism?

Now comes a college professor to prove that Moses was not a Jew. A more important fact is that the second commandment is the essence of Judaism.

Good of the order: Make a mail order canvass for members—the field is large and the possibilities great and we have the girls to conduct the campaign.

A new secret society has been formed. It comprises the Building Fund Committee. If there is something doing tell us; if not there is need of your secret society.

The books in the J. L. S. library look mighty nice. The committee in charge will feel their labor was not in vain if the boys and girls wear some of the looks off the books.

The reading of the Bible in the public schools is permissible, according to the courts. Does this apply to the sectarian passages as well as to the ethical precepts? There is a difference between them.

Herzl Lodge No. 608, I. O. B. B., will have close on to 20 members to initiate at its next meeting the first Tuesday in June. Every Ben B'rith is invited to see the secret work of the Order exemplified.

It is to be hoped that when the renowned Rabbi E. G. Hirsch makes his visit to Palestine this summer he will become a Jew. It might not be amiss for some philanthropic coreligionist to present him with a catechism before his departure.

Get into line and work for the upbuilding of your various organizations. There is no reason to object to a man because he happens to be a Litvock or a Galician, a Russian, German or American. Each and every one of you of clean records and unsurpassed moral characters should hold aloof from mud slinging, work in harmony and all together put your shoulders to the wheel.

A recent effort to unite the Jewish charities of Houston failed. The cause of failure is not important. It is enough to know that union is proper, desirable and necessary. When the ruffled feathers are composed another effort should be made. In the meantime remember that there is a lot of good in all of us and little bad in any of us.

The Christians of Russia who complacently murdered Jewish men and ravished Jewish women are justified by the Mohammedans of Asia Minor, who complacently murdered Christian men and ravished Christian women. The Jew is the only one of the three who needs no justification. It's an ill wind that blows nobody good, and let us hope that the latest incident, reprehensible though it be, will open the eyes of the benighted Russian to the beauty of tolerance.

The reader of the Jewish press is struck by the activity and prominence of the Zionist movement. It is today the live wire of Jewish thought. Whether it is a dream or the highest statesmanship, whether it be religious or racial, whether you agree or disagree with its program, the fact of the movement is important. It has proved the existence of a reserve force in Jewry, the possibilities of which are great. With this in mind, partisan and opponent should debate the question with mutual respect for opinion.

We are wont to hear of Jewish exclusiveness, as regards his relations with his neighbors. Where this exists it is bad. But far worse is that exclusiveness which so often mars the Jew's relations with his fellow Jew. This last barrier is oftenest of the flimsiest material. Nativity, wealth, orthodoxy, are a few of the lines of cleavage. As a matter of fact, no branch of Jewry has a monopoly of the excellencies. Each can learn and gather strength from the other, and through closer religious affiliations will come a stronger faith.

At Peoria, Ill., congregation Anshai Emeth unanimously re-elected Rev. Charles S. Levi as its rabbi for a term of three years. Rabbi Levi has led this congregation for eleven years.